

I am a school administrator at Texas School for the Deaf in Austin. I am one of many people who rely on Video Relay Services as our mode of communication with the outside world. Before VRS came into existence, we relied on text TDD as our means of communication via phone and when TDD relay came along, it was nice, but we were often frustrated with the problems associated with it. Imagine reading

a text TDD with words and not know the other person's emotions or tones. VRS made it possible because with the live interpreter, we are able to detect and understand emotions & tones from the other end of line. If you cease funding for Video Relay Services, you will diminish our ability to connect with the outside world. We rely on Video Relay Services for everything in our lives just like a hearing

person would do with a normal phone. What would a hearing person do if we ceased their phone service. I am sure they would be lost. Please continue funding

for Video Relay Services.

Thanks

Mark W. Johnston

Supervisor of HS Residential Services

Texas School for the Deaf